

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed concurrently with a RCE. An action on the merits of the claims is requested. The office action summary of the office action dated May 3, 2005 does not reflect the addition of claim 28 in the amendment of February 4, 2005.

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended. They are believed to patentably define over the art of record and are further believed to be generic to all embodiments. New dependent species claims are now added per the following table.

Corresponding claim currently withdrawing from consideration	New dependent species claims
3	29
4	30
5	31
6	32
7	33
15	34
16	35
17	36
18	37
19	38
20	39
21	40
28	41

Claims 1, 2, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakano et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,155,202). Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kindaichi et al. (JP 05-198390) and Nakano et al. These grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended and now incorporate limitations of claims 2 and 24 respectively, along with other changes. Amended claims 1 and 23 require that the feeding position is *a single position with respect to the first surface*. These claims also require that the *moving mechanism substantially moves the feeding position (a single position with respect to the first surface) of the feeding member on a circumference of predetermined radius which is concentric with the first electrode, on the first surface of the first electrode*. Claim 1 now incorporates the features previously set forth in claim 2 (now cancelled). Claim 23 now incorporates the features previously set forth in claim 24 (now cancelled). Applicant believes that amended claims 1 and 23 are patentable in view of the prior art of record. Claims 1 and 23 define combinations not suggested by the prior art. These combinations include the following features:

- a single portion of the feeding position is moved by the moving mechanism.
- the single position with respect to the first surface is moved on a circumference of a predetermined radius on the first surface of the first electrode, and
- the circumference of predetermined radius is concentric with the first electrode.

The following is support for the claim limitation that the *feeding position is a single position with respect to the first surface*:

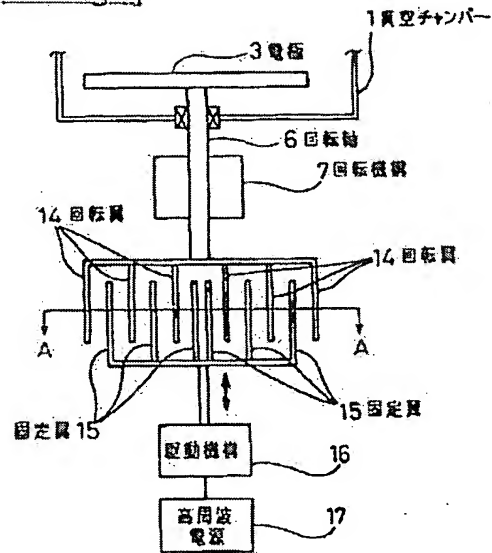
- (a) Figure 1: The top of the lower vertical portion 51 moves on the first surface
- (b) Figure 7: Each of the plurality of feeding terminal plates 65 has the same position with respect to the first surface (the position projected onto the first surface is the same), and
- (c) Figure 9: Each of the switching elements 71 is sequentially turned on by controller 72.

Neither Kindaichi nor Nakano teaches the combination of characteristics required by our claims, particularly:

- a single portion of the feeding position is moved by the moving mechanism.
- the single position with respect to the first surface is moved on a circumference of a predetermined radius on the first surface of the first electrode,

In Kindaichi, if the feeding position is assumed to be a moving position of the feeding member 14, the feeding position is not a single position with respect to the first surface (electrode 3 in Figure 4).

[Drawing 4]



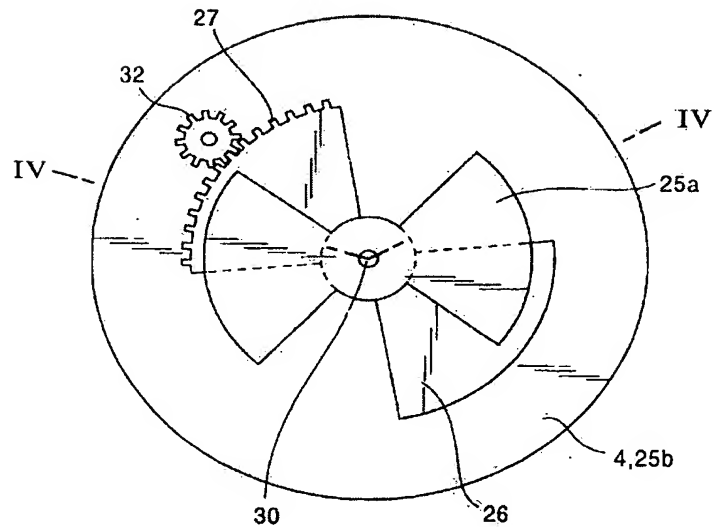
Kindaichi Reference Figure 4

If the feeding position is assumed to be a moving position of feeding member 14, the feeding position does not meet the limitation:

“the single position with respect to the first surface is moved on a circumference of a predetermined radius on the first surface of said first electrode.”

In Nakano, if the feeding position is assumed to be a moving position of the feeding member 26 having a pair of wings, the feeding position is not a single position but rather is *two positions* with respect to the first surface. Note electrode 4 in reference Figure 3.

FIG. 3



Nakano Reference Figure 3

Upon further study of the Kindaichi reference, Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the receiving terminal portions 60 remain fixed. Any statement to the contrary previously made by the Applicant is hereby renounced and corrected.

Regarding the Examiner's "Response to Arguments"

The Examiner stated in paragraph 10 of the official action that the portion of the feeding member that is moving its position is the receiving terminal plates 65. The Examiner stated that the feeding position in Figure 7 is the receiving terminal plates 65. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As stated above, in the Nakano reference, if the feeding position is assumed to be a moving position of the feeding member 26 having a pair of

wings, the feeding position is not a single position but rather is two positions with respect to the first surface. Note electrode 4 in reference Figure 3.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 8-14, 26 and 27.

* * * * *

Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment and the above remarks obviate the outstanding rejections in this case, thereby placing the application in condition for immediate allowance. Allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

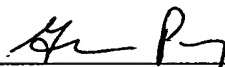
If any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 033082.123.

If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is necessary that is not accounted for in the papers filed herewith, such an extension is requested. The extension fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 033082.123.

Respectfully submitted,

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